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Judge Kane announced the death of the Hon. John Sergeant, a member of the Society, who died on the 23 l ultimo, in the 73d year of his age.

The Treasurer presented his Annual Report, which was read, and referred to the Committee of Finance.

No report being received from the Committee of Publication, the subject was postponed to the next meeting.

Nominations for membership were read.

Stated Meeting, December 17.

Present, thirty members.

Judge KANE, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Dr. Pancoast, a recently elected member, was introduced and took his seat.

Letters were read:—

From the Hon. Edward Everett, Secretary of State, dated Department of State, Washington, 15th December, 1852, on returning Dunn's Map of the British Empire, of 1774, loaned by this Society, in 1828, to the United States' Commission for submitting the question of the disputed North-eastern boundary to the arbitration of the King of the Netherlands: and—

From the Imperial Society of Naturalists of Moscow, dated Moscow, 4—16 June, 1852, accompanying a donation for the Library.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Bulletin de la Société Impériale des Naturalistes de Moscou. Année 1851. Nos. 3, 4. Année 1852. No. 1. Moscou. 8vo.—*From the Society.*

Die Mineral Regionen der obern Halbinsel Michigan's, N. A. am Lake Superior und die Isle Royal. Von C. L. Koch, &c. &c. Mit einer geognostischen Karte. Göttingen, 1852. 8vo.—*From Prof. Hausmann.*

The Documentary History of the State of New York: Arranged

under the direction of the Hon. Christopher Morgan, Secretary of State. By E. B. O'Callaghan, M.D. Vol. II. Albany, 1850. 4to.—*From the Regents of the University of the State of N. Y.*

Proceedings of the New Jersey Historical Society. Vol. V. No. 3. Newark, 1852. 8vo.—*From the Society.*

Journal of the Franklin Institute. 3d Series. Vol. XXIV. No. 6. Dec. 1852. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From the Institute.*

The Medical News and Library. Vol. X. No. 120. Dec. 1852. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From Blanchard & Lea.*

Register of the Officers and Graduates of the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, N. Y., from March 16, 1802, to January 1, 1850. Compiled by Capt. George W. Cullum, Corps Engineers U. S. Army. New York, 1850. 8vo.—*From Major Hartman Bache.*

A Collection of Tables and Formulæ, useful in Geodesy and Practical Astronomy; including Elements for the projection of Maps. Prepared by order of the Topographical Bureau, for the use of the Corps of Topographical Engineers: By Capt. T. J. Lee, Topographical Engineer. Washington, 1849. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Determination of the Latitude with Zenith and Equal Altitude Telescope. By Capt. T. J. Lee, U. S. Corps Topographical Engineers. Washington. 4to.—*From the same.*

Longitude by Lunar Culminations. Published by the Topographical Bureau of the War Department. Washington. 4to.—*From the same.*

Three Pamphlets, entitled: Remarks on the Circular Letters to the Secretary of War, to be signed by the Artillery Officers; with a Review of the Memoir on the U. S. Artillery, January, 1852:—Notice of a Reply to the Review of a Memoir on the U. S. Artillery:—The Ordnance and the Artillery.—*From the same.*

Report to the House of Representatives of the U. S. of America, vindicating the rights of Charles T. Jackson to the Discovery of the Anæsthetic effects of Ether Vapour, and disproving the claims of W. T. G. Morton to that discovery. Presented to the House of Representatives Aug. 28, 1852, by Hon. Edward Stanley, of North Carolina, and Hon. Alexander Evans, of Maryland, Members of the Select Committee on the Ether Discovery. 8vo.—*From an Anonymous Donor.*

Dr. Kane announced to the Society a second projected expedition to the Arctic regions, in search of Sir John Franklin, and gave, at length, an account of the objects of the same, and

of the efforts that had already been made in the same direction:—Whereupon, after some remarks by Mr. H. D. Gilpin, on motion of Prof. Frazer, it was—

Resolved, That a Committee of five members be appointed to act in concert with Dr. Kane, with the Coast Survey, the Smithsonian Institution, and such Societies as have determined to co-operate with him in carrying into effect the scientific objects of the expedition.

The Committee, appointed under the foregoing resolution, consists of Prof. Frazer, Mr. H. D. Gilpin, Prof. A. D. Bache, Prof. Henry and Dr. Dunglison:—to which, on motion of Prof. Frazer, to increase the number of the Committee, Mr. Justice and Mr. D. B. Smith were added.

Dr. Dunglison presented the two following resolutions, which were adopted by the Society:—

1. *Resolved*, That the American Philosophical Society highly appreciates the enlightened zeal exhibited by the Hon. John P. Kennedy, Secretary of the Navy, in the furtherance of scientific inquiry, and the declaration contained in his recent Annual Report, "that constant employment of ships and men in the promotion of valuable public interests—whether in defence of the honour of our flag, or the exploration of the field of discovery and opening of new channels of trade, or in the enlarging of the boundaries of science—will, he is convinced, be recognised both by the government and the people, as the true and proper vocation of the Navy, and as the means best calculated to nurse and strengthen that prompt and gallant devotion to duty, which is so essential to the character of accomplished officers, and so indispensable to the effectiveness of the naval organization."

2. *Resolved*, That whilst this Society experiences the deepest interest in the scientific and other advantages to be derived from the various exploratory expeditions that have been recently instituted, and some of which are in progress,—its sympathies are especially enlisted in the success of one emanating from the philanthropy and munificence of two individuals of our country, and which is to be under the guidance of an enterprising and accomplished member of this Society, already celebrated for his adventurous energy in the same cause, and whose services have been especially enlisted by the distinguished lady whose persevering efforts for the discovery of her lost husband will transmit her name to all times as that of a model

of energetic and affectionate devotion;—and that it has been a source of gratification to this Society that the Secretary of the Navy should have sanctioned, with so much promptness, the new expedition, by granting the necessary permission to Dr. Kane to be on special service, as well as by the liberal and appropriate recommendation to Congress, that should it become requisite in the field of operations to which he is destined, "to provide him with means for the prosecution of scientific discovery beyond those which may be afforded by the department, and the liberality of the distinguished gentlemen who have assumed the charge of this expedition, that that body will respond to the suggestions of this necessity with a prompt appreciation and generous support of an undertaking so honourable to humanity and so useful to the enlargement of liberal science."

On motion of Mr. Trego, it was resolved that the Secretary be instructed to transmit a copy of these resolutions to the Secretary of the Navy.

Dr. Kane recounted to the Society the reasons which induce him to believe that Sir John Franklin is still alive.

Mr. Fraley, from the Committee of Finance, exhibited the Minutes of the Committee, in which it was stated that they had examined the Report of the Treasurer, and found it correct. The following appropriations, for the service of the Society for the current fiscal year, were recommended by the Committee and directed by the Society:—

For the	Proceedings, - - - -	$100
„	Binding, - - - -	50
„	Journals - - - -	50
„	Hall, - - - - -	150
„	General Account, - - -	1100
		$1450

Pending and new nominations were read.

Mr. Fraley, from the Committee on the Alteration of the Laws of the Society, reported progress, and stated that they would probably be able to report at the next stated meeting of the Society.